

Project Name: Joe Hall Aquatic Habitat Restoration
Project Number: 206-086
Year of Monitoring: First Monitoring Report
Date: 5-1-08

EXHIBIT D

COMPLIANCE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. A description of any maintenance performed.

No maintenance has been performed as structure placements require no maintenance - they are meant to interact naturally with the stream. The landowner however, is continuing to make improvements to the riparian zone with native plantings and fencing.

2. An accounting of any costs associated with maintenance and monitoring.

There were no maintenance costs. The only costs incurred were for Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR) Staff to travel to the site, do photo monitoring and create the monitoring report. The landowner keeps track of and reports the stream gage data and the forest service places and retrieves the temperature data loggers.

3. An assessment of whether the project continues to meet goals specified in the grant agreement

The project is meeting the goals specified in the grant agreement. The logs and boulders have maintained their positions and are functioning as designed to slow winter velocities of the creek, to gather further debris and spawning gravel, and to provide pools and hiding places for the fish. Habitat complexity is being restored to Joe Hall Creek. Spawning and juvenile salmonid surveys are being conducted and will be reported over time in the next Monitoring Reports. Flow and temperature data is also being collected so that we may observe any changes over time, as cool summer flows are hopefully restored to Joe Hall Creek.

4. A summary of any public awareness or educational activities related to the project, including identification of any tours or presentations and copies of newspaper or other media coverage about the project.

The Joe Hall Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project has been awarded the "Fishery Team of the Year" for 2008 by the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society which will be presented on May 7, 2008. This is a wonderful honor and brings state-wide public awareness to this project.

The Landowners (the Petrowskis) have chronicled their experiences with this project on their website at:

<http://www.singingfalls.com/stream/stream-restoration.html>. In addition there is a "Feature Story" entitled "Agricultural/Agency Partnering- A Landowner's View" by Stanley Petrowski on the Umpqua Explorer at: <http://www.umpquaexplorer.info/stories/stories.aspx?Res=21493&View=full>.

This article chronicles the salmon returning to Joe Hall Creek and the development of the project through first contact by the Forest Service to project completion with the help of the Watershed Council.

There have also been two articles published in the Roseburg press - *The News Review* about the restoration activities in Joe Hall Creek (see attached).

The project information is stored on the PUR database. We plan to bring our DVD presentation up to date this summer and add recently completed projects including this one. This presentation is continually played at public events in the county including the Douglas County Fair. It will also soon be included in a central information repository on the Umpqua Basin Explorer (<http://www.umpquaexplorer.info/>) as well as at PUR's website which is currently being upgraded (www.umpquarivers.org).

In addition with such willing landowners public tours will be planned in the future to view this wonderful example of restoration efforts. The Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers will host a tour there next year in conjunction with its monthly board meeting.

5. A description of the condition of the project as it relates to the original proposed design and any modifications made during the implementation.

The project was carried out as designed with only minor adaptations being made during project implementation due to the challenges of placing very large trees, some with root wads, using a helicopter. The large, well keyed logs and boulders have functioned well to reduce stream velocities, help re-

establish stream connectivity with the low terrace, captured and maintain gravel in the system (see Figure 11) as well as creating scour pools and providing cover for hiding places for the adult and juvenile fish. The boulder weirs on the lower part of the creek have lifted the down-cut stream bed considerably (see Figure 12) and captured spawning gravel.



Figure 1
Joe Hall Site # 15a Looking Downstream - Pre Project



Figure 2
Joe Hall Site # 15a Looking Downstream - 4/25/08
N 42°52.163' W 122°52.588'



Figure 3
Joe Hall Site # 16a Looking Upstream - Pre Project



Figure 4
Joe Hall Site # 16a Looking Upstream - 4/25/08
N42 52.192 W122 52.608



Figure 5
Joe Hall Site # 16a, Detail of Structure



Figure 6
Joe Hall Looking Upstream at Site # 16a, Low Terrace just to left of Figure 4 - 4/25/08



Figure 7
Joe Hall Trib Looking Downstream at Site # 15b - Pre Project



Figure 8
Joe Hall Trib Looking Downstream at Site # 15b - 4/25/08
N42 52.215 W122 52.608



Figure 9
Joe Hall Looking Downstream at Site # 19 - Pre Project

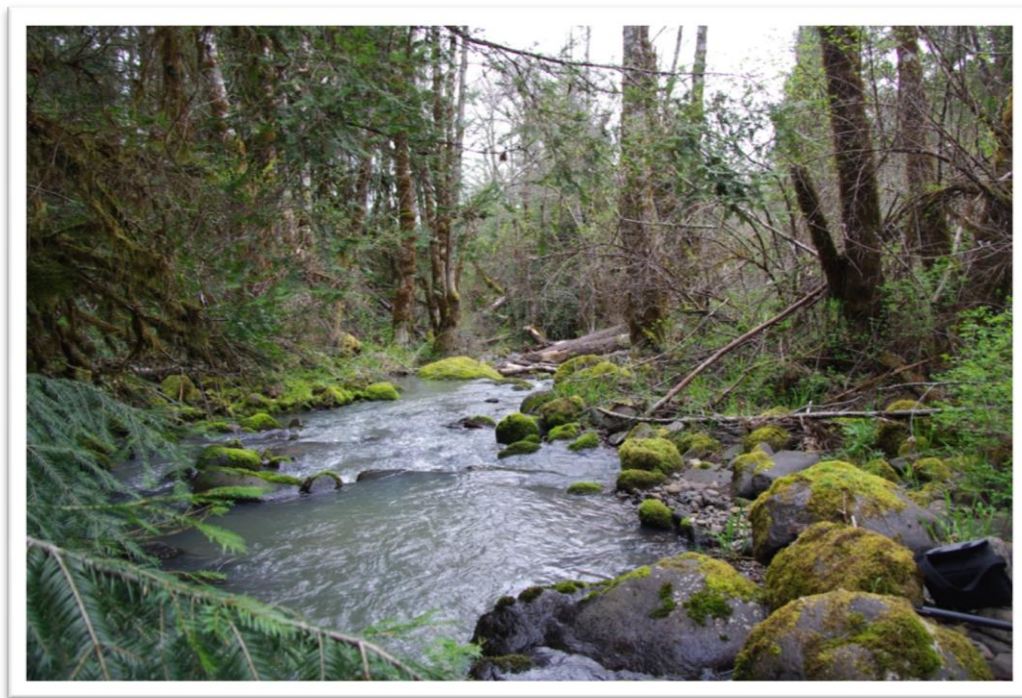


Figure 10
Joe Hall Looking Downstream at Site # 19 - 4/25/08
18mm lens
N42 52.216 W122 52.524

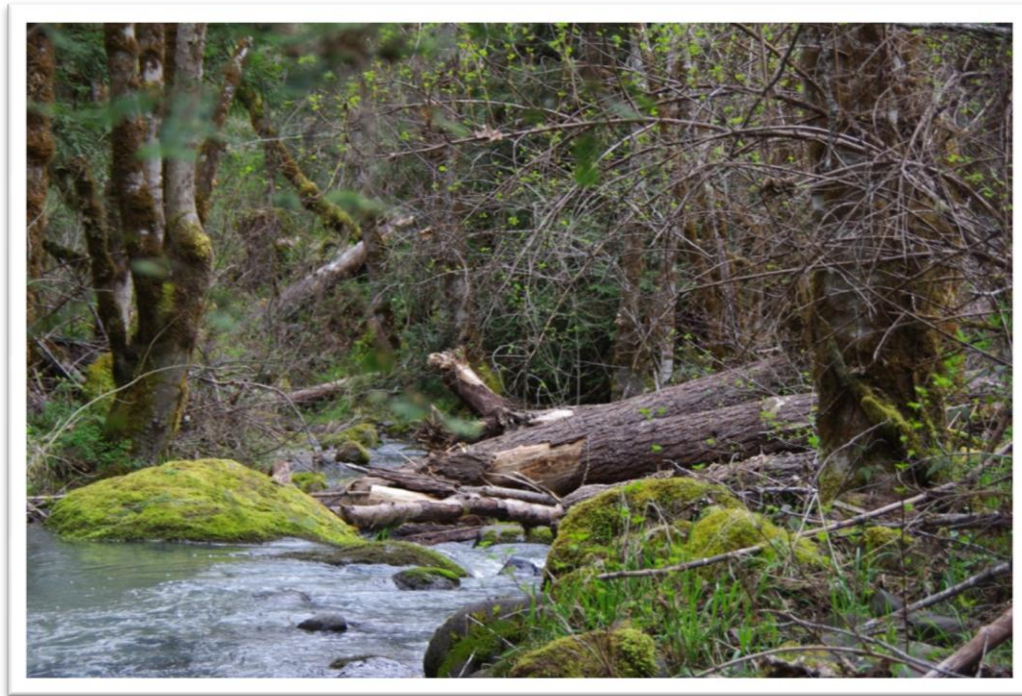


Figure 10
Joe Hall Looking Downstream at Site # 19- 4/25/08
Zoomed in on structure, 64 mm lens



Figure 11
New gravel accumulation below Site # 19 - 4/25/08



Figure 11
Joe Hall Site #2 Looking Upstream - Pre Project



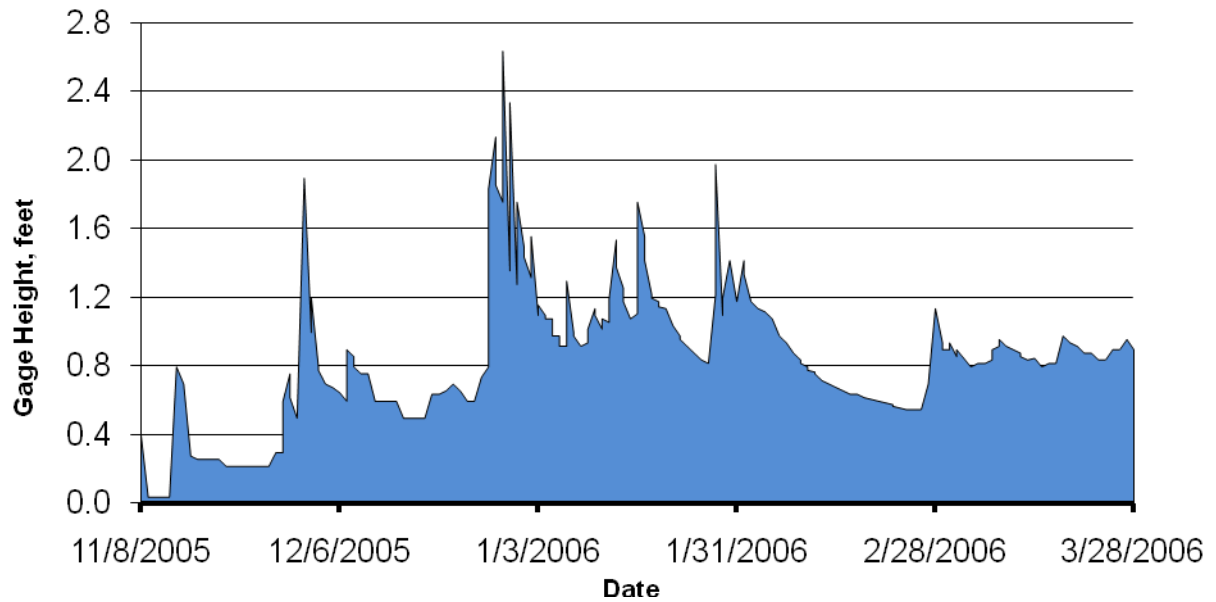
Figure 12
Joe Hall Site # 2 Looking Upstream - 4/25/08
N42 52.067 W122 52.890
Note amount of fill behind boulder weir



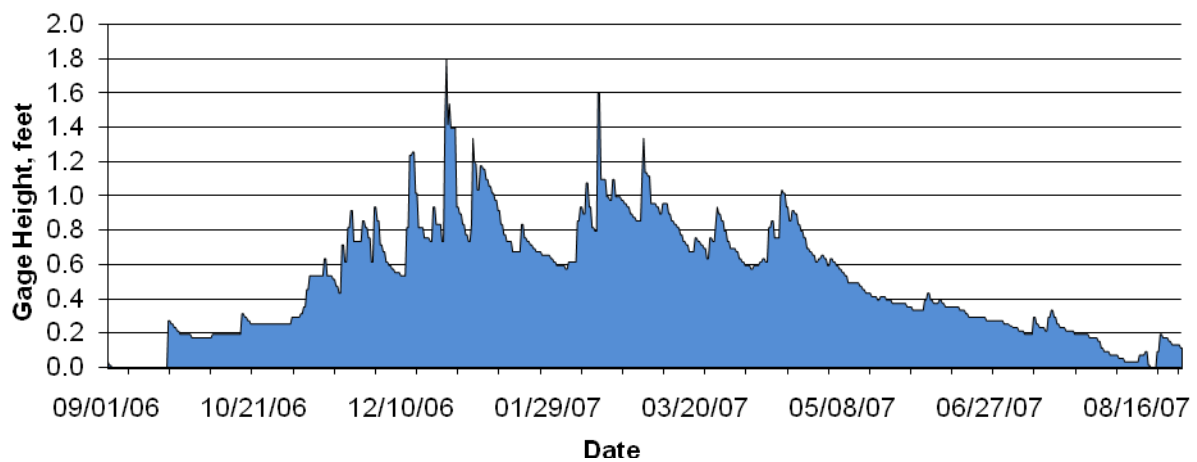
Figure 13
Joe Hall Example of Structure Accumulating Woody Debris, Increasing
Stream Connectivity and Producing a Nice Pool - 4/25/08

Joe Hall Aquatic Habitat Restoration:

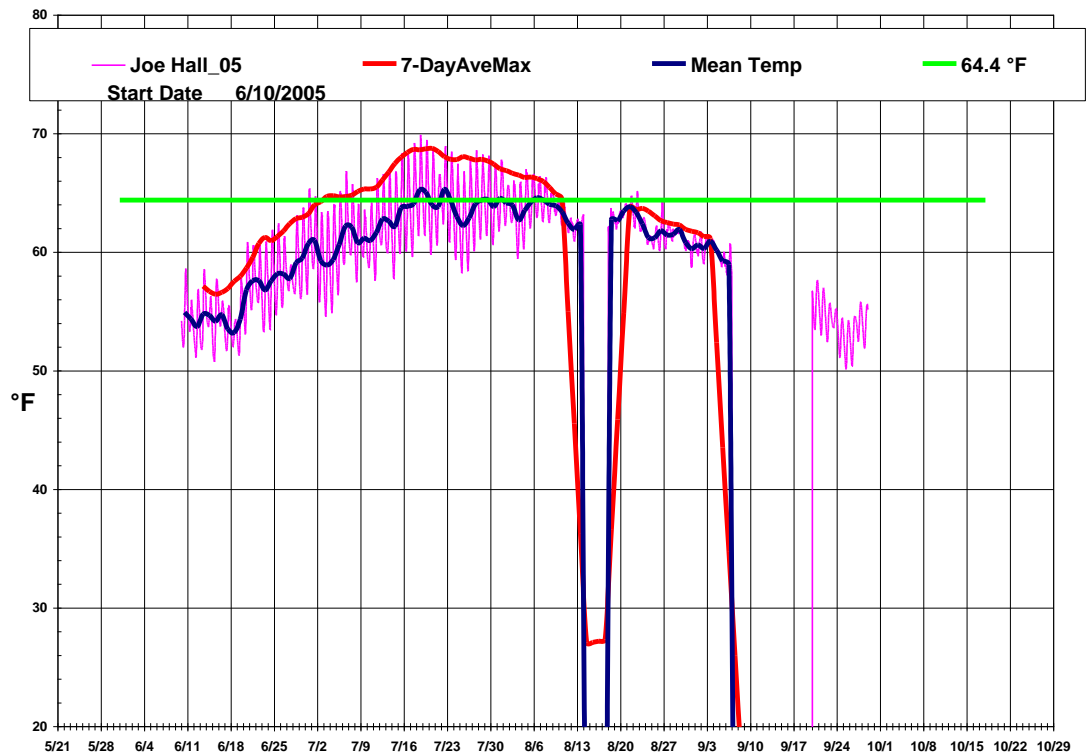
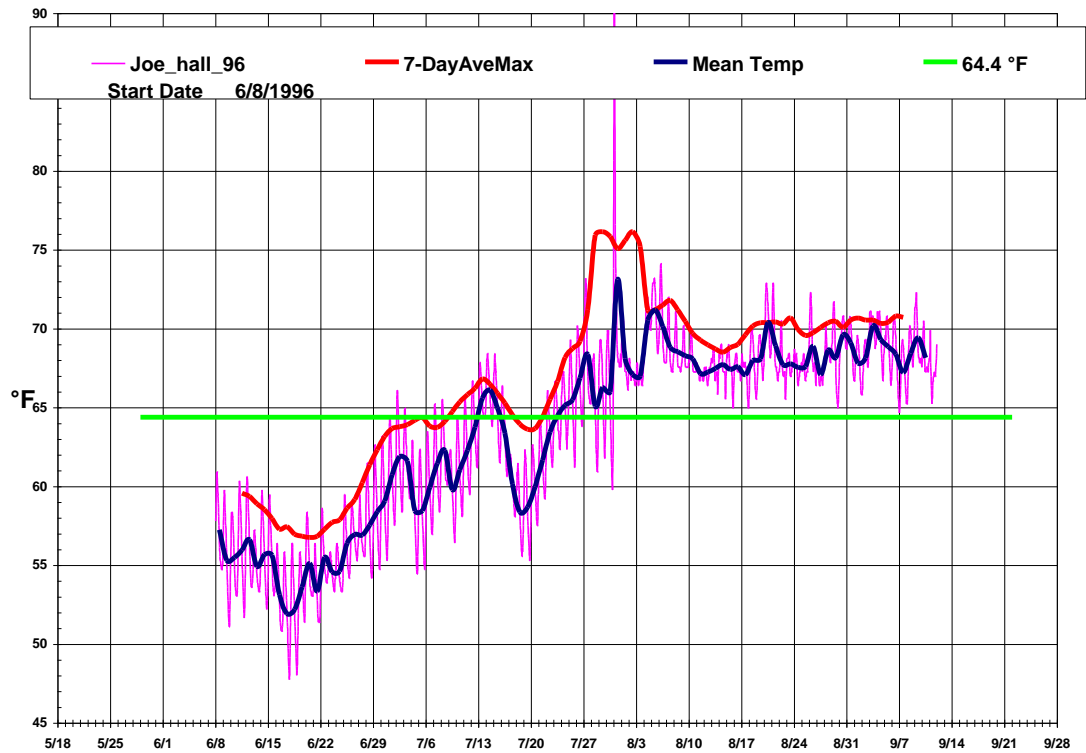
Joe Hall Creek 2005-2006 Stream Gage Readings

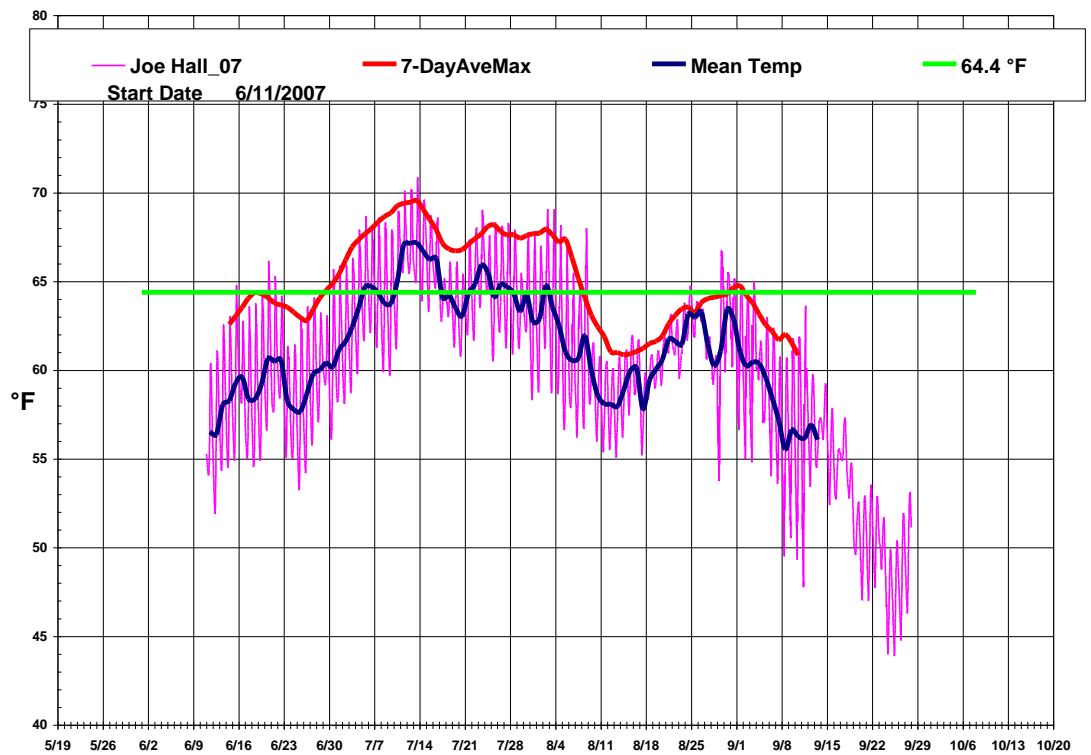


Joe Hall 2006-2007 Stream Gage Readings



Joe Hall Stream Temperature Data Logger





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Salmon's history in Joe Hall Creek

Adam Pearson

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DREW — For about five decades, salmon and trout found Joe Hall Creek uninhabitable. It had been stripped of its complexity.

In the 1940s and 50s, large wood was removed from its channel. Heavy rains straightened it like a bowling alley and washed gravel downstream that ordinarily would have spread over spawning grounds.

In the winter, the water became turbid. Sediment flowed into Joe Hall Creek from timber harvest sites set against it without riparian buffer zones.

The creek also dried up in late summer. Without logs and other habitat-building blocks, pools for fish no longer collected in it until the rains came.

The Joe Hall Aquatic Restoration Project should change all that. Underway since coho salmon returned to the creek in November 2004, 161 logs and 220 boulders have been placed in the lower mile of Joe Hall Creek and its tributary.

Restoration work took place on four different landowners' property as well as land managed by the U.S. Forest Service. A combination of grants from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, The Nature Conservancy, Title II funds and Forest Service dollars paid for the project.

The in-stream placement of logs and boulders cost \$90,000.

A landslide restoration project this summer will cost about \$55,000.

• You can reach reporter Adam Pearson at 957-4213 or by e-mail at apearson@newsreview.info.

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Stan Petrowski stands by logs that were placed in Joe Hall Creek as part of a restoration project to fortify coho salmon habitat in the creek. Joe Hall Creek runs through Petrowski's Drew ranch and he helped the U.S. Forest Service with the project.

MICHELLE ALAIMO / N-R staff photo



ENLARGE

Casey Baldwin, a fisheries biologist for the U.S. Forest Service at the Tiller Ranger District, looks for juvenile coho salmon in Joe Hall Creek last week. Salmon have just begun returning to the Drew-area creek recently.

MICHELLE ALAIMO / N-R staff photo

DREW — One fish in Joe Hall Creek is all it took for this sleepy community to rethink its relationship with nature and the U.S. Forest Service.

Two fish, three fish — a whole lot of fish later — and residents who live between Tiller and Jackson County now anticipate coho salmon to complete a life cycle in Joe Hall Creek this winter for the first time in 50 years.

"What we'd like to see is thousands and thousands of coho returning to Joe Hall," said Stan Petrowski, a Drew rancher whose 78-acre spread called Singing Falls sprawls east of Tiller Trail Highway and is split diagonally by Joe Hall Creek. "But realistically, usually there's a 3 percent return rate."

Coaxing Joe Hall Creek's spawning grounds back to their former bubbling ferocity will take a while. The reddened coho salmon, known in the area as the "Thanksgiving fish" for its timely arrival, were once so thick in numbers, old-timers used to say a person could cross the creek by walking on their backs.

And then they seemed to disappear forever — until a few returned to the drainage in November 2004.

At first it was one fish, swimming alone in a pool as if it had lost its way from Elk Creek.

"Well, that's not going to be very productive," Petrowski thought of it at the time.

But more fish came. In all, seven females and one male returned to plow redds in the gravel and bring the barren creek back to life.

"I was totally taken by it," said Petrowski, an Angora goat rancher who moved to the area in 1991 with his wife, Alexandra, with whom he spins mohair in their modest cottage.

Elated, he enlisted his neighbors to help with a lookout for more returning coho salmon.

"Before it was all over, you could see my neighbors standing on bridges and over creeks looking for salmon," he added.

Word of the return spread rapidly. Soon the U.S. Forest Service came calling.

"You want to do something for these fish?" a fisheries biologist from the Tiller Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest asked Petrowski.

"I don't trust you," Petrowski replied.

And neither did his neighbors.

Well known in the area is the Forest Service's long-ago abandoned practice of removing trees and woody debris from rivers and creeks in the 1940s and 50s. The theory was that it improved habitat for anadromous fish. It couldn't have been further from the truth, as it turned out.

"Those idiots are the ones that had us take the wood out in the first place," Petrowski's neighbors would say.

Casey Baldwin, the Tiller fisheries biologist, insisted mistakes were of the past and that old timber harvest methods, which had a debilitating effect on salmon habitat, had largely changed. With the Forest Service's help, Baldwin said Petrowski could propagate coho salmon on his own land.

Petrowski began to come around. And then there was the connection: He saw the relationship between the salmon on his property with the wildlife in the forest surrounding his home and also with struggling fishermen on the Oregon Coast.

"The whole picture just lit up for me," he said. "The fact that the fish came back, on my property, made me feel like, 'Hey, this is a responsibility.'"

One hundred and sixty-one logs and 220 boulders later, Joe Hall Creek and its tributary are primed for the return of the first coho salmon spawned there in half a century.

"I would hope to see 25 fish," Baldwin said of that return.

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However, there are many uncontrollable factors, he said, that make any return unpredictable: Out-migrating coho smelt have birds and bass in the South Umpqua and main Umpqua rivers to hide from. Once they make it to the ocean, where they live for about 18 months and fatten up, there's the real "wild card" — ocean conditions and harvest.

Whatever the return of those fish that brought Joe Hall back to life three years ago, Petrowski will likely be the first to see it. Sometimes, however, they get by without him seeing them.

Salmon returned to Joe Hall Creek the winter following the year Petrowski noticed them, but were not visible this past winter. But they were in there. On the banks of the narrow creek, small coho fry can be seen zipping around and under large logs that were placed in and around the creek's channel last summer.

"We got baby coho all in there, so I guess they snuck by me," Petrowski said.

Those fish and incoming salmon fry from next winter's spawn will receive a helping hand from Baldwin and Petrowski. Joe Hall Creek tends to run dry by August and has very few pools for fry to find shelter. So the landowner and the biologist will hand-scoop the fry from the creek and transport them to the more robust Elk Creek, a tributary of the South Umpqua River which Joe Hall flows into.

In the future, Joe Hall Creek should begin to rebuild itself with heavy winter flows. There wasn't a heavy rain event last winter to bring down a lot of woody debris and rock to plug-up against the placed logs and boulders, but eventually, the restoration work should pay off in "dividends," Baldwin said. "Hopefully, everything starts to kick in."

In the meantime, some of Petrowski's neighbors have taken their own steps to bring Joe Hall and other area creeks back to their former characteristics with the re-introduction of beavers.

"They're geniuses at what they do," said Leonard Houston, who, with his wife, Lois, have taken up the cause of beaver reintroduction to the Tiller Ranger District and the rest of Western Oregon so enthusiastically they have created a Beaver Advocacy Committee and pass out fliers and make speeches on their cause.

His neighbor agrees.

"We don't need a (Army) Corps of Engineers permit to build a dam, if the beavers are doing it," Petrowski said. "Their little ponds become the perfect refuge for salmon."

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